



Queensland Highland Pipers' Society

www.qhps.org

Newsletter - June 2009

June Meeting

on Monday June 22nd
7.30pm

Balmoral Bowls Club
Jean Howie Drive, Morningside

**This will be a Pipers Night, so all are welcome to have a
tune - the more the better
(and the lighter the load on each player)**

The piping scene in Queensland seems to be showing signs of improvement. There was a very successful Pipe Band and Solo Championships on 6 and 7 June, with very good solo entries, especially in the Open events. The upcoming Carrara contest, though smaller, looks to be quite a good day in the making. Following that is the Scots PGC Gathering at Warwick in July and now the Redlands Gathering in September is starting to take shape. Combined with this, North Queensland seems to be getting itself organised with smaller informal gatherings and hopefully some forays by individuals and Bands to the "deep south" of Brisbane.

Combined with a number of younger players starting to emerge, all of this gives us some hope for the future of piping and pipe bands in Queensland.

We also have the Australian Pipe Band Championships at Caloundra next Easter and that may well raise our profile and assist with recruitment in the future.

Alex McConnell

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All comments made in this newsletter reflect the views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Queensland Highland Pipers' Society or of any particular officer or member of the Society.

2009 SOCIETY CALENDAR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 23 RD	PIPERS' NIGHT
MARCH 23 RD	HORNPIPE & JIG CONTEST FOR SENIORS, 2 PARTED JIG FOR JUNIORS
APRIL 27 TH	PIPERS' NIGHT
MAY 25 TH	PATRON'S TROPHY CONTEST (MSR FOR SENIOR PLAYERS)
JUNE 22 ND	PIPERS' NIGHT
JULY	JIMMY DURHAM MEMORIAL CONTEST (2/4 MARCH FOR JUNIOR PLAYERS)
AUGUST	ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER	SEPTEMBER (PAIRS OF PIPERS)
OCTOBER	PIPERS' NIGHT
NOVEMBER	JACK McCANDLISH TROPHY (6/8 MARCHES)

- ◆ After each competition, the floor is open for all as at a Pipers' Night.
- ◆ The aim is to start meetings at 7.30pm (7.15pm for a 7.30pm start) to allow an early finish/more piping/more social time at the end of the meeting. Junior competitions are to start promptly and finish by 8.30pm.

PIOBAIREACHD GROUP

1 st February	3 rd May	2 nd August	1 st November
8 th March	31 st May	6 th September	6 th December
29 th March	5 th July	4 th October	

MAJOR SOLO CONTEST

10th or 17th October

MAY MEETING

About 30 tuned out for our premier March Strathspey and Reel contest for the year, the Patron's Trophy.

Maurie DeHayr was doing the introductions as Matt Supranowicz was competing. He reported apologies from Vic McKay, Jack Grant, Donald & Elizabeth Galloway, and Reg and Glenys O'Malley. He also welcomed Bob Ash from London, who is a teacher of piping in Surrey and London and is visiting this part of the world for a while (leaving the next Wednesday). He had been brought along by Neville Jones from the Redcliffe Band. Maurie also gave a short history of the Patron's Trophy.

Our first competitor was Stuart Grant, in his first solo competition for a long time. He has only been practising for about a month but had certainly regained much of the ability we remember from his previous competitive career. His tunes as chosen by Tam

McGirr, who was judging, were *Knightswood Ceilidh*, *Blair Drummond*, and *Sandy Cameron*.

Maurie gave a slightly belated introduction of Tam McGirr as judge for the evening. Tam had just flown back from New Zealand after competing there in the Claymore competitions on the weekend. Maurie also made some mention of his unfortunate contact with a chair at the Adelaide contest.

Next to play was Matt Supranowicz, with *Miss Elspeth Campbell*, *Susan MacLeod* and *The Sheepwife*.

The next competitor was Larry Flynn, who was asked to play *Balmoral Highlanders*, *Maggie Cameron* and *Sound of Sleat*.

The final competitor was Mark McKenzie and his tunes were *Mrs John McColl*, *Piper's Bonnet* and *Caber Feidh*.

Tam made some comments about the performances

and compared with the performances in NZ. He said tonight had been a great contest with a very nice selection of tunes

After due consideration, Tam allocated the prizes as follows

- 1st Stuart Grant
- 2nd Mark McKenzie
- 3rd Matt Supranowicz

Maurie mentioned Peter Lewis, a former winner of the Patron's Trophy was in the room. Also Mark McKenzie and Matt Supranowicz are former winners.

Next we head a selection of tunes from Matt Supranowicz including *The Battle of Waterloo*, *Flett from Flotta*, *Wee Highland Laddie*, *Tam Bain's Lum*, *Troy's Wedding*, *Mrs Lily Christie* and *Auld Adam*.

Next Ross Campbell played a selection including *Jimmy Bain*, *Liberton Boys Polka*, *Millbank Cottage*, *Isa Johnstone*, *Fiona Macleod* and finally the

Piobaireachd *Lament for Sir James MacDonald of the Isles*.

He was followed by Stuart Grant whose tunes included *Colin's Cattle*, *Shoals Of Herring*, *Kilworth Hills*, *Donald Maclean of Lewis*, *Tug Argan Gap*, *Duncan Johnstone* and *Hammer and the Anvil*. Bob Ash played for us the 4/4s *Battle of Waterloo* and *Flett from Flotta*, *Tully's Air* and the 6/8s *Dominic MacGowan* and *Atholl Highlanders*.

The last player for the evening was Mark McKenzie whose tunes included the 6/8s *St Jean de Vigne* and *Frank Thompson*, 2/4s *Dr E G McKinnon* and *P/M Robert Rennie*, followed by more tunes including *Kenny Gillies of Portnalong*, *Dunrovin Farm*, and finishing up with *Fiddler's Rally*.

Finally the raffle was drawn. The three prizes were won by Ray Cole, Innes Barker and Bob Ash and we retired for supper.

Piobaireachd Group

Our "June" Piobaireachd meeting was actually held on 31 May and was attended by 8 members, including a new participant in Ralph Nakervis. Apologies were received from Yasu Hamilton and Mark McKenzie.

Tam McGirr was the first to play with *Lament for Alasdair Dearg*. he was playing a new kangaroo hide bag made in Cairns and there was some discussion about the relative merits of different types of bags. Unfortunately his pipe never quite settled through the performance.

Matt Supranowicz then played *Lament for the Viscount of Dundee* on a good pipe that held well. There was some discussion afterwards about the first variation.

Ross Campbell was next to play. He related the treatment he had given his chanter reed (which had given some trouble at the Monday night meeting prior) by gently washing the reed and cleaning out the chanter throat. It was certainly going much better. He played for us the *Lament for the Little Supper*.

Next we went through the set tune, which was *Macleod of Colbeck's Lament*. Ross provided comprehensive notes, which are reproduced later in this newsletter, plus a CD for each participant.

We then adjourned for morning tea and afterwards Ross played the tune on the pipe.

Finally Matt Supranowicz played *The Goat* to finish the meeting.

"Raising the Standard"

The Scottish & Celtic Magazine of Queensland

Be fully informed and up-to-date on what is happening in the Scottish and Celtic Community, here and overseas. Progressive Calendars of Events for Pipe Bands; Highland Dancing; Scottish Country Dancing; Irish Dancing and Clans Congress are featured in each edition of "Raising the Standard"

Annual Subscription - \$28 (including postage)

Write to: ALBA Publications, PO Box 8024, Wynnum North, Qld 4178

07 3396 9025

What's on.....

20 Bannockburn Dinner - Qld Irish Association, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. Contact: 3359 6662 - Trevor Campbell - Bookings essential by 10 June

22 Society Meeting - Pipers' Night

- J**
U
N
- 27 PBA Band and Solo Contest - Carrara - Gold Coast (Bands & Solos) - Details later in this newsletter. Contact 07 3257 4527
- 27 "Ceilidh in Cooroy" - Memorial Hall in Cooroy. Contact Ian Purnell on 5455 5633 or Mike MacDonald on 0419899290 for details and tickets. Presented by the Noosa Pipe Band and the Society of St Andrew of Scotland Sunshine Coast Branch. \$25, Child \$10, concessions for pensioners. Family of 4 \$60

4 Aberdeen (NSW) Highland Gathering - Contact 02 6543 8457

5 Society Piobaireachd Group

- J**
U
L
- 5 Tartan Day Celebration - Australian Scottish Community (Qld) - South Bank Cultural Forecourt, Brisbane. 9am-4.30pm - Contact 07 3359 8195(a/h)
- 18 Scots PGC Highland Gathering (Bands & Solos) - Warwick - Details later in this newsletter - Contact 07 3257 4527

27 Society Meeting - Jimmy Durham Memorial

2 Society Piobaireachd Group

7-8 Pipers Retreat at Tenterfield - see details later in this newsletter

15 Worlds Pipe Band Championships - Glasgow Green

20 Combined Scottish Societies of NSW Solo Contest. Ryde (Sydney) TAFE. Contact Mike Stubbings 02 9670 1936

24 Society Annual Meeting

- 26-27 Argyllshire Gatheing, Oban
29 Cowal Gathering - Dunoon

3-4 Northern Meeting, Inverness

6 Society Piobaireachd Group

S
E
P

19-20 Redland Highland Gathering Bands & Solos - more information to follow

28 Society Meeting - Pipers' Night

4 Society Piobaireachd Group

- O**
C
T
- 11 Newcastle Contest
- 18 Silver Tassie Solo Contest - NSW Southern Highlands. Contact barnowl@acenet.com.au

26 Society Meeting

2010 - 3/4 Australian Pipe Band Championships - Caloundra

VISIT THE COMING EVENTS PAGE AT www.pipebandsqld.org FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE ABOVE, INCLUDING WEB LINKS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

The Smallpipers Group - Contact Malcolm McLaren for meeting details - mrmclaren@bigpond.com

The NSW Pipers' Society meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Contact Ron Clement

– 02 9948 1914.

Canberra Pipers Society: contact Sean Hodgman ph 6282 2795 or email u4114272@anu.edu.au
OR Jamie Forsyth 0419 631 999 or email jamesforsyth@hotmail.com

RU Brown Piobaireachd Society of South Australia: Contact Sue Kempster 08 8264 3329
skempster@adam.com.au

The WA Pipers' Society meets on the 3rd Saturday at the Autumn Centre, Inglewood. Contact
Mrs Alma Dender – 08 9448 7446

RADIO PROGRAMS

College of Piping Radio: You can tune in on the Internet on www.college-of-piping.co.uk/html/radio.htm

4EB - FM 98.1 – Thursday afternoons 2.15—4.30 pm

Radio 997 FM (Redcliffe) – Sundays 12noon to 3pm

Burnett River Radio (91.5 FM) - Thursdays 7pm to 9pm

For more details about any of the above events where a contact is not mentioned, ring or email the Society Secretary (07 3397 4512 or qhps@qhps.org) and we will see what we can dig up for you. If we don't know about your event (social, musical, fundraising or whatever) we can't publicise it in the Newsletter. So tell us and get free publicity

Contest Results

Celtic Inn Targe for Piobaireachd and Colin Craig Claidhmor for Light Music - Palmerston North, New Zealand – 23 May

Celtic Inn Targe Piobaireachd

- 1st Marion Horsburgh
- 2nd Jamie Hawke
- 3rd Martin Frewen

Colin Craig Claidhmor

- 1st Martin Frewen
- 2nd George Mason
- 3rd Murray Mansfield
- 4th Iain Robertson
- Other competitors: Geoff Halberg and Thomas McGirr.
- Stuart Easton and Brendon Eade judged both events. The contest is judged by the previous year's winners.

Blair Atholl Games, Scotland – 24 May

Overall

- Gordon McCready
- A-Grade Piobaireachd
- 1st Innes Smith
- 2nd Gavin Walker
- 3rd Fiona Manson
- 4th Cameron Drummond

- 5th Alastair Dunn
- 6th Allan Russell

MSR

- 1st Douglas Murray
- 2nd Gordon McCready
- 3rd Cameron Drummond
- 4th Alasdair Henderson
- 5th Alastair Dunn

Hornpipe & Jig

- 1st Gordon McCready
- 2nd Alastair Dunn
- 3rd David Wilton
- 4th Gavin Walker
- 5th Cameron Drummond
- 6th Calum Beaumont

B-Grade Piobaireachd

- 1st Faye Henderson
- 2nd John Mulhearn
- 3rd Alasdair Henderson
- 4th Keith Bowes
- 5th Gordon Bruce

Bathgate Highland Games - 30 May

Piping Aggregate

- Gordon McCready

Piobaireachd

1st Alexis Meunier, Brittany
 2nd Gordon McCready
 3rd Douglas Gardiner

March

1st Kevin McNulty
 2nd Gordon McCready
 3rd Gareth Gardiner

Strathspey & Reel

1st Gordon McCready
 2nd Kevin McNulty
 3rd Emma Buchan
 Judges: Tom Speirs and Dugald MacNeil

**Continental Pipe Band Championship -
 Almere, The Netherlands – 6 June**

Open

1st Antwerp & District
 2nd Concord
 Drumming: Antwerp & District

Grade 2

1st Antwerp & District
 2nd Concord
 Drumming: Concord

Grade 3

1st Antwerp & District
 2nd Concord
 Drumming: Antwerp & District

Grade 4

1st Belgian Blend
 2nd Saendistrict
 3rd Interscaldis
 Drumming: Belgian Blend
 Best Bass: Belgian Blend

**Queensland Championships 2009 - Ipswich 6
 & 7 June**

BANDS**Grade 4**

1st Gold Coast Tweed - Association Trophy
 2nd Bellinger River
 3rd Scots PGC Senior
 Pipe Corps: - Gold Coast Tweed - Donald Mackie
 Trophy
 Drum Corps: Gold Coast Tweed - Association
 Trophy
 Dress: Gold Coast Tweed
 Drill: Bellinger River

Grade 3

1st City of Brisbane - Association Trophy
 2nd Ipswich Thistle
 Pipe Corps: - City of Brisbane - President's Trophy,
 Harry Treeby Memorial Trophy
 Drum Corps: - Ipswich Thistle - Legato Shield &
 Quintin Baillie Memorial Trophy
 Dress: Ipswich Thistle
 Drill: Ipswich Thistle

Grade 2

1st St Andrew's – Association Trophy
 Pipe Corps: St Andrew's - Association Trophy
 Drum Corps: St Andrew's - Association Trophy
 Dress: St Andrew's
 Drill: St Andrew's

Grade 1

1st Qld Highlanders No 1 - Association Trophy &
 Bill Affleck Memorial Trophy
 Drum Corps: Qld Highlanders No 1 Kevin Rookas
 Memorial Shield
 Dress: Qld Highlanders No 1
 Drill: Qld Highlanders No 1
 Bill Sawers Trophy:
 Best Dressed and Drilled Band with a Drum Major:
 Ipswich Thistle

Drum Majors

1st Simon Kubala
 2nd John Grace
 3rd Bran May

Solos**Learner Chanter**

1 Cameron Andrews
 2 Tamar Stanfield-Roche
 3 Darryl Ahern
 Judge: Maurie DeHayr (Qld)

Elementary March Heat 1

1 Meggie Doran
 2 Ben Tomkins
 3 Lachlan Munro
 Judge: Chris Stevens (NZ)

Elementary March Heat 2

1 Nick Tomkins
 2 Amos Fox
 3 Bruce Fraser
 Judge: Matthew Rigby

Elementary March Heat 3

1 Kirby Douglas
 2 Sam Hemer
 3 Ned Skehan
 Judge: Maurie DeHayr (Qld)

Elementary March Final

- 1 Nick Tomkins
 - 2 Amos Fox
 - 3 Kirby Douglas
- Judge: Matthew Rigby (Qld)

Elementary S/Air Heat 1

- 1 Amos Fox
 - 2 Ned Skehan
 - 3 Bruce Fraser
- Judge: Chris Stevens (NZ)

Elementary S/Air Heat 2

- 1 Meggie Doran
 - 2 Ben Tomkins
 - 3 Sam Hemer
- Judge: Matthew Rigby (Qld)

Elementary S/Air Heat 3

- 1 Kirby Douglas
 - 2 Malcolm MacKellar
 - 3 Nick Tomkins
- Judge: Maurie DeHayr (Qld)

Elementary S/Air Final

- 1 Kirby Douglas
 - 2 Malcolm MacKellar
 - 3 Ned Skehan
- Judge: Maurie DeHayr (Qld)

Elementary Piping Overall

Kirby Douglas - Peter Henderson Polypenco
Chanter from St Kilda Retail

Sub-Intermediate MSR

- 1 James Doran
 - 2 Angus Wheeler
 - 3 Gavin Pointing
- Judge: Matthew Rigby (Qld)

Sub-Intermediate Jig

- 1 James Doran
 - 2 Jayne Shelley
 - 3 Angus Wheeler
- Judge: Iain Bruce (Qld)

Sub-Intermediate Piping Overall

James Doran - Peter Henderson Blackwood
Chanter from St Kilda Retail

Intermediate MSR

- 1 Christopher McLeish
 - 2 Wayne Kennedy
 - 3 Owen Capon
- Judge: Iain Bruce (Qld)

Intermediate HP/Jig

- 1 Christopher McLeish
 - 2 Wayne Kennedy
 - 3 Owen Capon
- Judge: Matthew Rigby (Qld)

Open MSR

- 1 Tom McGirr
 - 2 Ross Campbell
 - 3 Iain Robertson
- Judge: Chris Stevens (NZ)

Open HP/Jig

- 1 Iain Robertson
 - 2 Tom McGirr
 - 3 Matthew Supranowicz
- Judge: Chris Stevens (NZ)

Piobaireachd 'A' (open)

- 1 Ross Campbell
 - 2 Iain Robertson
 - 3 Mark McKenzie
- Judge: Iain Bruce (Qld)

Piobaireachd 'B'

- 1 Christopher McLeish
 - 2 Kirby Douglas
 - 3 James Doran
- Judge: Iain Bruce (Qld)

Roddy MacSween

- 1 Larry Flynn
 - 2 Angus Wheeler
 - 3 Stuart Grant
- Judge: Maurie DeHayr (Qld)

Mini Bands

- 1st Gold Coast Tweed (B)
- 2nd Bellinger (B)
- 3rd Redland City (B)


Markinch Highland Games - 7 June**Piobaireachd**

- 1st Gavin Walker
 - 2nd Keith Bowes, Glasgow
 - 3rd Derek Midgley, Tinton Falls, New Jersey
 - 4th Faye Henderson, Kirriemuir, Scotland
 - 5th Gordon McCready, Renfrew, Scotland
 - 6th James Murray
- Judges: James Banks, Andrew Wright

MSR

- 1st James Murray, Coupar, Scotland
 - 2nd Gavin Walker
 - 3rd Alistair Henderson, Glasgow
 - 4th Alexis Meunier, Brittany
 - 5th Derek Midgley
 - 6th Allan Russell, Kelty, Scotland
- Judges: Roderick Barron, Laurence Gillespie


.....Continued on Page 12



THE SCOTS PGC COLLEGE
invites you to a

GATHERING OF THE CLANS

- PIPE BAND, SOLO PIPING & DRUMMING COMPETITIONS
- HIGHLAND GAMES
- STALLS & REFRESHMENTS
- HIGHLAND DANCING DISPLAYS



**SATURDAY
18th JULY
2009**

BRIGGS OVAL
OXENHAM ST. WARWICK QLD

**BAND AND SOLO PROGRAM
AND ENTRY FORMS**

EVENTS

SOLO PIPING

- Event 1 Learner Chanter Under 15 (2 parts any time sig)
- Event 2 Under 15 Slow Air (2 parts)/ 2/4 March (4 parts). May retune.
Additional prizes for 1st each tune
- Event 3 15-18 years 2/4 March (4 parts), S'spey and Reel (2 parts each).
Additional prizes for 1st March and 1st S/R
- Event 4 Open MSR (all tunes 4 parts)
- Event 5 18 and under Piobaireachd – Submit one tune – participate for comments if you can play Urlar & one Variation
- Event 6 Open Piobaireachd (Over 18 or graded open for Piob) –
Submit 3 tunes
- Event 7 Open Event (all ages) - 4 minutes of musical selection (must include 2 parts of hornpipe or jig)

ENTRY FEES:

<u>BANDS</u>		<u>SOLOS (per event)</u>	
Grade ½	\$50.00	Learner	Free
Grade 3	\$40.00	Under 15	\$2.00
Grade 4	\$30.00	15-18	\$3.00
		Open	\$5.00

Scots PGC Warwick Contest 18/7/09
SOLO ENTRY FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:-

The Secretary

PO Box 1328

COORPAROO DC 4151

Phone 07 3257 4527

An electronic copy of this form is available at www.pipebandsqld.org

ENTRIES CLOSE LAST MAIL FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2008

NAME _____

GRADE _____

Piper / Drummer / Drum Major (cross out inapplicable descriptions)

PHONE _____

Address _____

Email _____

Event No	Event Description	Entry Fee
TOTAL		

Please include a stamped addressed envelope for return of the contest draw if you have not supplied an email address

Please make all cheques payable to the Australian Pipe Band Association Queensland Branch

CONDITIONS AND CONTEST RULES

- All Band competitions will be conducted under Australian Pipe Band Association (APBA) Rules
- All entries and fees must be received on or before **Friday 19 June**. Please make all cheques payable to the Australian Pipe Band Association Queensland Branch.
- Competitors may only compete in their registered grades. Correct Highland Dress or registered band uniforms must be worn while competing
- There must be at least 3 competitors in each solo event otherwise the event may be cancelled. If there are fewer than 6 nominations, 1st and 2nd prizes only will be awarded.
- Solo competitors are to register with the judge of an event prior to the event commencing
- Only fine tuning (maximum 2 minutes) permitted in front of judges in solo competitions
- All trophies are to be collected on the day unless alternative arrangements have been made.
- All competitors are to arrange their own accommodation.
- All competitors to compete at their own risk. No liability is accepted for injury or loss sustained by any person taking part in any event.
- The organisers reserve their right to alter the programme and times as provided in the APBA rules.
- All soloists and band persons should endeavour to participate in the Massed Band
- Pipers accompanying solo drummers must wear highland dress or registered band uniform

The Tenterfield Highlanders Pipe Band

Presents

"The Pipers Retreat"

**Friday & Saturday,
August 7th & 8th, 2009
REGISTRATION FEE \$20.00**

Friday Night - Welcome @ Court Yard Café School of Arts 5.00pm to 10.30 (BYO)

Saturday

10.00am to 12.00noon workshop

12.00 noon to 1.30pm lunch (court Yard Café)

1.30pm to 4.00pm Piobaireachd (recitals & appreciation)

4.00pm to 5.30pm Light music

6.30pm to 7.30pm Dinner

7.30pm to late Ceilidh (Bar available)

Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts Rouse Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372

- Contact Harry Bolton 02 6736 6100 or Fraser Bolton 07 3847 4747
- Accommodation@TenterfieldTourism 02 6736 1082
- Email h.bolton@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au



Qld Branch

Pipe Band and Solo Competition

Saturday 27 June 2009

**Carrara Sports Grounds
Area 6
Gold Coast**

(note that this is on the other side of the main road
to the venue used last year)

www.pipebandsqld.org

Lament for MacLeod of Colbeck

This is a most attractive composition from John MacKay of Raasay (father of Angus MacKay), who also composed Lady Doyle's Salute and several other less well-known tunes. John MacKay was born in 1767 and was taught by the greatest pupils of Patrick Og MacCrimmon – Iain Dubh MacCrimmon, Donald Ruadh MacCrimmon and the MacKays of Gairloch. He in turn taught John Ban MacKenzie and Angus MacPherson, the father of Malcolm, better known as 'Calum Piobair', who taught John MacDonald of Inverness. He was also the link for the Camerons, so it was from this man that we pipers of today have derived our knowledge of piobaireachd. He had been piper to James MacLeod of Raasay from 1800 until MacLeod's death in 1823, then he became piper to Lord Willoughby d'Eresby at Drummond Castle until sometime between 1835 and 1840 when he left Stirlingshire and settled in Kyleakin, Skye, where in 1848, he died in his 81st year.

The tune was composed around 1810 by John MacKay in memory of Col. John MacLeod of Raasay, who had a property in Jamaica, named 'Colbeck'. You may have heard of the Elizabeth Ross MS. Elizabeth Ross was

orphaned and brought up by her uncle, James MacLeod of Raasay, and so, had grown up with the music of John MacKay, some of which she put into staff notation for the keyboard. For those who are interested, I have at home, a recorded radio presentation by the pianist, Peter Cook from the School of Scottish Studies, making a detailed analysis of her MS and suggesting how the music may have sounded on the pipes. Although it boils down to conjecture, it makes fascinating listening. Elizabeth Ross later became Lady Doyle by marriage, and John MacKay thought highly enough of her to compose a salute in her honour.

Play from the Piobaireachd Society Collection (book 10 p292) if you like, or Angus MacKay p149, but I prefer Malcolm MacPherson's setting from Binneas is Boreraig. I prefer it not for his timing, but because he leaves some notes plain, that in my opinion, enhance the tune. This tune is not published in Kilberry, but it is in Angus MacKay's book on page 149 and on p163 of Thomason's 'Ceol Mor'. I got it first from Ian MacKay of NZ in 1978 and again in 1979 from Iain Bruce. Both gave the same interpretation, but I chose to adopt the Binneas is Boreraig amendments when I learnt the tune properly, much later on. I do not know which way Brown and Nicol played it, and Bob Nicol's singing on the 'Masters' series is not clear enough in detail for me to detect the differences. Suffice to say that your choice rests purely on a matter of aesthetics.

The differences to note from the PS setting are as follows: I do not grace the C in bar two, or the E in bar eight of line one, or the E's in bars four and eight of line two and bar four of line three. In compliance with these changes, I do the same in Variation 2 singling (Tripling variation). I do not play an a'mach variation in this tune, although modern thinking seems to favour it. I personally think that any tune with a tripling variation and a taorluath variation is long enough!

As I said at the beginning, it is an attractive tune, and it has a particularly striking suibhal variation. In the Urlar, Bob Nicol sings the introductory phrase to each line as it is written, but it is perfectly correct to play it the way we know Bob Brown played the same introduction to 'His Father's Lament for Donald MacKenzie', that is, to hold the E longer and sort of tumble down through C and B to low A, keeping the C slightly longer than the B. A couple of points to note in your timing; don't be afraid to cut. In Bob Nicol's singing, he cuts all of the odin movements, so don't be lazy with them; conversely, soften the B's that precede the dro on C before high A or the dre movement. Nicol also slows slightly during the triplings that precede the cadences (for want of a better name), where the melody pauses on either B to C or B to B in the singling of the tripling variation.

If you are reading from the PS setting, you may notice that each bar could easily stand alone, and if this is allowed to happen, you could easily destroy the two-bar phrase structure, so try to play through and have your separating pauses at the end of each second bar. Binneas is Boreraig shows the phrases clearly, but in Angus MacKay and the PS scores, you need to have your wits about you.

In Binneas is Boreraig, both the taorluath and the crunluath singlings begin with a cadence! This is surprising, for accepted practice as I have it, says that whilst it is a rarity to have a cadence introduce the taorluath singling, it should never be played for the start of the crunluath variation. The Marquis of Argyll's Salute is an example that comes to mind.

I have given you a CD of me playing it on the Deger pipe. I use the Deger all of the time, and for this sort of exercise, it is easier to accomplish than having to blow the pipe and steady it down, which all takes time. It may be helpful if you decide to learn the tune.

The tune is covered by Bob Nicol singing it on the 'Masters of Piobaireachd' series CD #7, track 4, and I have provided you (courtesy of Iain Bruce) with an excellent workshop presentation that he gave in Melbourne in 1978.

Ross Campbell – 31 May, 2009

CONTEST RESULTS CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 7

**Donald MacDonald Quaich - Armadale, Skye
- 13 June**

Winner

Iain Speirs, Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute

Other competitors

Euan MacCrimmon, The MacLeods Salute

John Angus Smith, Cill Chriosda

Alastair Dunn, Too Long in this Condition

Judge: Colin MacLellan

This is an annual invitational contest that where competitors perform settings of tunes in the style of Donald MacDonald.

**Georgetown Highland Games - Georgetown,
Ontario - 13 June**

Bands

Grade 1 (medley, four competed)

1st Scottish Lion-78th Fraser Highlanders

2nd Toronto Police

3rd Peel Regional Police

4th 78th Highlanders (Halifax Citadel)

Drumming: SL78FH

Best Bass: SL78FH

Judges: Bob Worrall, Andrew Berthoff (piping);

Ken Eller (ensemble); Al Savage (drumming)

Professional Solo Piping

Piobaireachd

1st Ian K. MacDonald

2nd James MacHattie

3rd Doug MacRae

4th Michael Grey

5th Robbie Beaton

6th Bruce Gandy

Judge: Bob Worrall

March

1st Ian K. MacDonald

2nd Bruce Gandy

3rd Michael Grey

4th James MacHattie

5th Robbie Beaton

6th Doug MacRae

Judge: Ken Eller

Strathspey & Reel

1st Bruce Gandy

2nd Ian K. MacDonald

3rd James MacHattie

4th Michael Grey

5th Robbie Beaton

6th Doug MacRae

Judge: Bill Livingstone

Jig

1st Bruce Gandy

2nd Ian K. MacDonald

3rd James MacHattie

4th Michael Grey

5th Stephen Tripp

6th Robbie Beaton

Judge: Reay Mackay

Strathmore Highland Games - 14 June

Piobaireachd

1st Tracey Williams

2nd Chris Gibb

3rd Ross Forrest

4th John Mulhearn, Glasgow

5th Craig Muirhead

Judges: Jack Taylor, Ronnie Clark.

March

1st Alexis Meunier

2nd Peter MacGregor

3rd Allan Russell

4th Fiona Manson

5th Derek Midgley

Strathspey & Reel

1st Alexis Meunier

2nd Allan Russell

3rd Peter MacGregor

4th Derek Midgley

5th Gavin Ferguson

Light music judges: Ian Duncan, John Stewart

The games were cut short by thunder, lightning and hail at about 3pm before all competitors were able to play.